



# ARENA REPORT



P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547

\$1.00

Volume IV, Number 7

January 13, 1992

Welcome back everyone as we gear up for another year of "AR". Hope all your holidays were super. Thanks for all the cards and letters as well as comments on the annual. Glad you enjoyed it. As we start out the new year, I'd like to welcome "AR"'s newest guest columnist Jeff Bowdren. Jeff doesn't need any other intro as many of you are familiar with his work in the Wrestling Observer and Pro Wrestling Torch. Jeff's column "The "Original" Highspots" will appear from time to time in this publication. I know you'll enjoy Jeff's wit as well as his knowledge of the mat game. He joins K.C. O'Connor and Jeff Siegel as "AR"'s associate staff. Now let's get into the meat and potatoes starting with the WWF's "Superstars of Wrestling" taping held in Daytona Beach. Oops, but first, the formalities.

Arena Report is published bi-weekly at the cost of \$1.00 per issue. There is a label on your envelope indicating when your sub expires. All results, letters, renewals and the like may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547. And now, let's go to the Ocean Center where I was joined by "AR" columnist Klon, and attorney at-large (Sounds like he escaped from somewhere.) Chris Qualmann.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*LIVE REPORT\*\*  
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## WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Tuesday, January 7, 1992

Ocean Center

Daytona Beach, FL

This was a taping for "Superstars". I'll indicate where the bouts were taped for Prime Time with P.T., dark matches, and try outs as well.

1) Shaka Chongo (Soul Taker) over Mike Jackson. Yes, the Alabama Mike Jackson. Not sure if Taker's name is correct. He does a voodoo gimmick. What a shop-lifter that Vince is. First he steals Repo gimmick from the IWF and now the voodoo one from Global. 2) Owen Hart pinned Barry Horowitz. Too short. It didn't have time to develop. Had potential. 3) Jake Roberts DDT'd T.D. Wilson. Fans were popping for Jake. A heel eh? And in his fave town no less. 4) Legion of Doom beat Pete Sanchez & Jim Cooper. 5) Mountie mounted Mike Casey. 6) Virgil put Kato to sleep. Not one offensive move for Diamond. Disgusting. 7) Rick Martel (sans ponytail) beat Mickey HHHay. Yes, the same Mickey Jay that refs for the old Florida promotion. 8) Bret Hart used the sharpshooter to squish Jack Owens. Before the bout, The Mountie cam out and badgered Bret to chase him to the back. When Bret came back to the ring, they played his music again and announced him. But this time, there was no I-C belt around his waist so Mountie will be getting the title at the Rumble. Yeeech. 9) Natural Disasters crushed Bob Avery & Herman Hammer (No relation to Van) 10) Ted DiBiase beat T.D. Wilson. 11) The New Foundation (Baggy Pants & Nit Wits) over Avery Brothers. 12) Repo Man beat Kevin Catlin. Repo has great music but he overdoes the gimmick with no wrestling whatsoever to speak of. 13) Sid Justice powerbombed Mike Casey. Gosh, the guy tore his bicep and couldn't work out yet he was just as big as ever. How do you think that happened? 14) Warlord beat Chris Walker in 6:31 (P.T.) Walker went for a frankensteiner but Warlord dropped him down for win. Not a bad bout. \*+ 15) Marty Jannetty beat Jack Owens. Marty is using the move that paralyzed jobber Chuck Austin in Tampa last year. Poor guy. If he sees this on TV, he'll cringe. 16) Kerry Von Erich beat Barry Horowitz (P.T.) 17) Bret Hart made Mountie submit with the sharpshooter in 7:45. (Dark) It was good. \*\*+ 18) LOD beat Disasters via count out in 5:31. Dud 19) Boss Man slammed Terry Davis. 20) Latin Fury over the Heartbreaker in the best bout of the night. Fury was a mexican Luche Libre guy. No mask. Looked real young. Lots of people have asked me if it was Conan and I would bet my life it wasn't. Heartbreaker had a mask and worked great. I thought it was Jimmy Backlund but was told no by my two cohorts. A luche match all the way. (Tryout) \*\*\* 21) Beverly Brothers over Catlin & Scott Colantonio. 22) Tatonka beat Brooklyn Brawler. Chris Chavis indian name. Came from the "Dances With Wolves" movie. 23) IRS escaped Bob Smedly. (Sort of like Sunday night in Peoria.) 24) Tito "Matador" Santana bumped Bob Morgan. -----They then did a Funeral Parlor with Sherri saying she loves Shaah Michaels. Basically Ted DiBiase is going to buy Shaun for Sherri. Isn't love grand?----- 25) Undertaker buried Mickey Jay. 26) Jannetty beat Kato in



3:45. (P.T.) 27) Tatonka squashed poor Pat Tanaka in 1:56. 28) Sid power-bombed Skinner in 1:44 (P.T.) Think Keirn's push is history? 29) Virgil & Santana over DiBiase & Repo via DQ in 9:20 when Repo wrapped the rope around Virg's head and dragged him back to the locker room. \* ----Funeral Parlor with Flair & Hennig. To air during Rumble weekend. Great interview. Ric took back handed shots at Ted Turner when he said, "ALL you hear now is 'Man of the Year' this, and 'Man of The Year' that. Next year only one man will be on the covers of magazines and that's Ric Flair".-----30) Hacksaw Duggan & Sgt. Slaughter beat Bill Tabb & Jim James. 31) Soul Taker beat Dale Wolfe. 32) Randy Savage pinned Jake Roberts in 7:16. Jake had Undertaker in his corner and Randy had Sid. Jake won't take bumps on his back anymore which makes me think his neck is bothering him again from when he took that guitar shot from Honkey a few years ago. While Jake was chased by Sid, Undertaker got in the ring and ~~toasted~~ Randy. When Jake came back, he went for a DDT but Randy rolled him up. \*\* (Dark) 33) Hulk Hogan beat Ric Flair in 10:30 via count out. Hulk is a piece of shit. How can anyone not sell Flair's chops in the corner. Hogan has no respect for Flair whatsoever. This wasn't bad but Hogan not selling a thing killed it. They did a false three count when Hogan hit Ric with the leg drop but Flair's foot was on the ropes. Curt Hennig then threw brass knucks into the ring and Flair hit Hogan with them but the superman kicked out. They took it outside and Hulk beat the count after posting Flair. \*\* (Dark) NOTES: The infamous Klone was at his quotable best tonight. Kerry Von Erich was signing autographs in the lobby and we went down to check it out. When a little girl got to Kerry, von Erich said, "Hi sweetheart!" Klone said, "Isn't that nice. Either that or he's a pedophile."...Also with this one after going into a soulful speech to some kid about the Von Erich family, "Yeah Kerry only has one brother left but he's brain dead."...Sign of the night, "Ric, take him to school"....Jamison was at ringside. Not sure why since Whackers didn't work the card. I went and asked for my money back when I realized I didn't get to see them....Unfortunately, we got stuck with Mel Phillips doing the ring announcing instead of Howard Finkel....Klone liked this quote from yours truly. "Look at the size of those guys. Even security is on 'roids."....WCW's David Crockett was at the show doing "I Spy" work"... When we saw him we asked him if we were at the wrong show? he said he was in town and stopped by to see Ric.....A very uneventful taping. They hid the identity of the new champion well though we know it's down to 2 people. I still say they'll give it to Flair and hope the steroid issue dies down so Hogan can reclaim at Wrestlemania....Roddy Piper was in the building but didn't appear in the arena itself....A snoozer of a show.

#### RAMBLINGS:

First I want to apologize for the type in this issue. Looks like my machine needs an overhaul.....This first item just came into me today (Sunday) from two sources. Since it's Sunday I couldn't confirm it with Titan Sports but my sources say Hulk Hogan gave his notice that Wrestlemania will be his last show. Supposedly, family pressure was the main reason although I'm sure the new round of steroid flaps would have something to do with it as well. It appears he is also telling friends that after some time off he'd like to open his own territory. will update you next issue.....There is good news and bad news from WCW. The good news is we don't have Jim Herd to kick around anymore. Herd who was the executive V.P. of WCW resigned on Wednesday in front of the steering committee. Word has it that he blasted Ross, Magnum, and Dusty to their faces before walking out of the meeting. The bad news is that TBS attorney Kip Frey has been named Herd's replacement. Bad news because it seems he knows even less than Herd did about wrestling. Seems Dusty and Jim Crockett were teaching him the business on Thursday. One good thing about the regime. They seem like they'll cooperate with the wrestling press a little more. WCW has invited some newsletter editors to the Clash in Topeka and the day after they will be having a press conference introducing the new head man. It would have been nice to attend but I had to send my regrets since it's mid week and I do have a job to do.....WWA ran a couple of shows this weekend. 1/10 in Drexel Hill drew 400 to see Bob Backlund pin Jerry Lawler in the main event with Dick Murdoch and Kimala going to a DQ underneath. Victor Rivera Jr. made his debut beating Jason Jarrett....1/11 in Clementon, NJ drew 500 to see Backlund pin Murdoch and Lawler over Kimala by DQ. Kimala was sporting the USWA title. Also on this card, Chris Candido went to a double count out with Chris Evans....1/11 in Philly saw Hogan beat Flair via count out in front of an estimated 12,000 fans. Best match saw Tito Santana & Ted DiBiase go to a draw....Nintendo just finished a commercial with Hogan, Paul Orndorff, Koko Ware, and Honkey Tonk Man....WCW in June will be running a show outside the Marriott hotel on the beach in Daytona. Was told it is a Clash but that's crazy. Then again, I wouldn't put anything past this regime. Now that Herd is gone, a good chance Kevin Sullivan will be back. Some think Jim Cornette may consider returning as well..... (continued next page)



IWF ran a show on 1/10 in Winter Haven, FL drawing 304 (266 paid) with what I thought was their best card yet. The Long Riders & Blackjack Mulligan won a six man elimination from the Heartbreakers & The Rossessor when Mulligan was the last man left. Blackjack didn't embarrass himself since the other 5 worked their butts off all around him. \*\*\*3/4 Mondo Kleen pinned Al Hardiman in the main event when Cliff Anderson held Al's foot while Mondo scored the win. They come back in Feb. with Mondo & Cliff vs. Mulligan & Hardiman in a cage.... Good to see Three Count's Alex Marvez in Winter Haven with his femme fatale Debrianna who was taking in her first card at the ringside table....Vince McMahon looking at Johnny B. Badd when his contract is up in September. We'll fit in good with the other REAL fruits they got in Titan.....WWF did a drug test in Daytona the night of the tapings. was told that if it was legit, the only ones who would have passed would have been Flair and Savage.....WWF taped in Ft. Myers on 1/8 with the only noteworthy thing taking place was Art Barr doing a job for the Latin Fury.....Vince is planning a WWF PPV for June 13.... Thanks to Dan Reilly and Tom Burke for having me on as guest on their "Wrestle Radio" show last Saturday.....Also thanks to Greg Goode who sent me probably my best Xmas present this year when I came home from work and found a box of programs on my doorstep. Tons of programs. Heard they went from Pete Lederber to Jeff Bowdren to Greg. Well guys, they have made their last trip. They won't be going anywhere.....Dan Adams and Gary Waugh are promoting Sunflower State Wrestling with a show on 1/19 in Moisington, KS. Main event is a Kansas Dinkhouse Battle Royal....Kendall Windham still on work release from prison. Told he's on some booking sheets for various groups here in Florida but has to be back in the brig by 9.00.....Georgiann Makropoulos puts out wrestling Chatterbox. She is offering a special to "AK" readers. Send \$1.00 to cover postage and she'll send you a sample copy. Each issue is chock full of info as well as newspaper clippings. Her address is 23-44 30th dr., Astoria, NY 11102.....Also a special offer comes your way from the guys at wrestling Perspective. Dave and Paul will send you the issues with the Tommy Young interview (double issue), the two issues with the Stan Lane interview, and the upcoming issue with an interview with Rockin Robin all for \$5.00. A good insightful newsletter. Check it out ...Send to P.O. Box 401, Camillus, NY 13031-0401.....Mike Tenay is now hosting a wrestling radio show in Las Vegas called "wrestling insiders". It airs from 6-7 p.m. Pacific time on the sports and Entertainment Network and flagship station KVEG 840 in Vegas..... Here is a hilarious Unofficial Award that was in the pages of the year end issue of PWT. You wrestle them and An Hour Later You want A Rematch: The Orient Express Set it?....Harry White is now the proud owner of the old Missouri state title belt that was given to him by Mrs. J. Connor. Lots of history with that thing. Hang on to it Harry and don't pawn it ala Morales.....Have doubts about the reports that had Jimmy Snuka signing with Herb Abrams. I know the kumble is only a one shot deal but if he signed, do you think Abrams would let him work.....Lex Luger leaving WCW will not hurt them at all. Right now he's just a face in the crowd with a bad attitude to boot. The hottest thing they have going right now is the Dangerous Alliance. Hope they let them gain continuity before turning one of them which will probably be Austin....To all reading this for the first time, the newsletter usually doesn't look this messy but since this is the last page I'm doing at deadline, I don't have time to get it fixed since it's 9.30 p.m.....Next issue will see Klon, Marianne Ryan, Scott Hudson, K.C. Connor, and Jeff Bowdren with submissions. Also will feature a live WCW report from Jacksonville with a surprise in store. See ya gang.

Ron

NAME: BOB LUEDKE

OCCUPATION: doorman

BORN: 8/24/48 Atlantic City, NJ

WHAT 3 WORDS DESCRIBE YOU BEST: warm, friendly, cute

DREAM VACATION: trip to Australia

THINGS YOU CAN DO WITHOUT: rude people

WHOM IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE DINNER WITH: Nancy Stafford

MOVIE YOU COULD SEE ANYTIME: Dracula

3 THINGS THAT CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR: milk, juice, cheese

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE: Alan Alda

WHAT TV SHOW DO YOU NEVER MISS: Matlock

FAVORITE WRESTLING MOMENT: When Bob Backlund pinned Superstar Billy Graham with foot on the ropes.



THE ORIGINAL HIGH SPOTS  
by Jeff Bowdren

Well, boys and girls, it's been almost a year since the flame of a certain torch gave me a case of the burn outs, but...with batteries recharged, let's proceed with the sometimes initiated, sometimes duplicated, hopefully more interesting...HIGH SPOTS!!

Well, I'll be honest with you. I flat gave up on WCW about a week before the Bash. The return of the always fun Cactus Jack & Abby did not even re-awaken my interest. Rick Rude's debut perked the interest meter a bit, but it was the return of Ricky Steamboat that officially awakened my interest. I'm liking some of what I've been seeing on the shows. 1) One hot match per show always gives the viewer a reason to hang with the show. 2) The added interview segments gives the feuds a better chance of getting over. 3) Strong main event heels. I really like the Dangerous Alliance. I hope the company gives them a chance to develop.

I know that Battle Bowl '91 has been getting horrendous reviews, but there were some things about it that I liked. The idea of a blind draw tournament is not a bad one, as New Japan has done the concept before with good success. Of course, we were dealing with the braintrusts at WCW, and as expected, they screwed it up. The whole show was basically an advertisement for "Wrestle War '92", with the Sting-Luger main event. Good points and bad, beginning with good (less to talk about): 1) Terry Taylor was great! His tag match was easily the best of the show. 2) Abby was, in his own delightful & perverse way, a hoot. Didn't you love his smile as he found out Sting was his partner? That and his total destruction of the State Patrol. 3) Sting is being positioned very well as the lead baby, what with every heel in the company wanting a piece of him. For better or worse, this guy is going to be WCW's flagship. Hopefully this time the company will be better prepared to do right by him, and vice versa. 4) I thought having the camera in the dressing room was a nice touch. I liked seeing Ricky Morton and Larry Zbyszko arguing after their match. Now, let's take a look at the bad: 1) The show should have never been on a PPV. The customer has no reason to buy it. If you're going to insist though, I would have drawn the teams the day before the show on TBS. That way, if you would have had a Sting-Luger tag team that would've interested the public, you encourage the last minute impulse purchase. Or in the alternative at least keep your world champion out of a tournament that basically does nothing for him and have him fight his "number 1" contender, with the winner of the tourney getting a title shot. 2) Why were there 40 participants? This reminded me of the Croquet Cup the last year when one of the teams was Denny Brown & Todd Champion. And they went to the second round too! (By the way, I guess they got in that tourney by winning the prestigious Western States tag belts or something.) The point is there were way too many guys involved. Would it have made any difference whatsoever if there were only 32 participants? That way we could have eliminated such world class grapplers as Dallas Page, Michael "They said things about my father that I'll never let stand." Graham, Bill Kazmaier, & The Nightstalker, who now is a viable candidate for worst wrestler in the history of the business. 3) Mike Graham screwing Liger. Was this outrageous or what? Here's a guy (Liger) who's goal in life is to be the absolute best in the business getting jacked around by a cretin who is only in the biz because his dad owned the wrestling company. Mike has been an asshole from day one and it's sure good to see that some things haven't changed. Face it Mikey, on the best day of your life you couldn't hold Liger's jock. 4) If I never see another card with a double ring something or other, it'll be too soon for me. They're awful in person and worse on TV. 5) Would someone do us all a favor and make sure that Missy Myatt (sorry Zinger) & Magnum T.A. are not allowed on TV again? And hey! Didn't those folks in Norfolk pop bigtime when Bischoff shilled Magnum? Not!! 6) I know that there's some heat in the office with Luger, but gee, watching the show, did you get the distinct impression that Lex Luger wasn't long for the world title? Yeah, I know it's true, but geez, even the most casual fan had to notice that they introed Lex as the world champ and that Luger had four guys follow after him when they were coming to the ring for Battle Bowl. Real credibility. Speaking of Lex, next time I'll have a little something to say about Mr. Luger.

MASTA LA VISTA BABY.....The Booker



SCOTT HUDSON'S.....

# GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL

## HOW I SPENT MY CHRISTMAS VACATION

ATLANTA, GEORGIA - It has been two months since an issue of "Arena Report" hit the street. In that two months, much has happened in the world of pro wrestling. A recap of the last eight weeks would be very beneficial as we again delve into the bi-weekly netherworld of "A.R."...I had the thrill of a lifetime experience in seeing Jushin Liger vs. Brian Pillman on Christmas night at The Omni. Liger is every bit as good as you would think based on Japanese videotaped highlights. He is also every bit as proud as a Bruiser Brody based on his complete disgust with Bill Kazmeier's putrid excuse for ringwork at Starrcade '91. When Liger through his hands up in disgust at Mike Graham's inability to execute the most rudimentary of high spots, that showed the pride that Liger has in his work and the disdain he feels for those inferior to him. Here, here. It ain't braggin' if you can back it up...Superstar Billy Graham and "Dr. D." David Schultz came clean and admitted to years of steroid abuse and also accused Hulk Hogan of being a dishonest long-term steroid abuser. Without casting aspersions on the leader of the Hulkamaniacs, I sincerely hope that Hulk Hogan will show the same amount of class that Graham and Schultz displayed on "Inside Edition" and admit what he has done. Hulk Hogan has dropped so far in my book over the last year (i.e. the match vs. Tenryu where Hogan would not do the job, the interview comparing himself to Jesus Christ, the appearance on "The Arsenio Hall Show", etc.) that he may never recover in my eyes... Lex Luger gave his notice to the WCW offices that February 29 would be his last day. This all but assures the title change to Sting on the Superbrawl PPV to be held on that date. I remember Luger as a rookie in Florida in 1986, debuting Percy Pringle's monster partner for Rick Rude called "The Luger". He looked about the same as he does now although his work has markedly improved in the interim. I have watched Luger's career from the very first day and will see him on his last. He seems to have become very jaded to the business since his meteoric rise began. Without addressing the steroid issue in Luger's case, someone with that look and that natural athletic ability should not be disheartened by this business. Luger is a walking, talking example of how a sure thing can improve and still fail because of dressing room politics...Jim Herd was fired / quit as the executive vice-president of WCW. For three years we "smart fans" have clamored for the removal of Herd. He deserved the bad press he got in the newsletters, no doubt. However, now that Herd is gone will WCW improve? Maybe the dismissal of Jim Herd from the powers-that-be of WCW solely is not such a good idea. While it's true that Herd needed to go, other things needed to be done to reverse the fortunes of WCW, and those changes do not appear to be forthcoming...In what may become a mid-level story of 1992, Smoky Mountain Wrestling debuted. I have not seen one tape of this group and do not have any source (as yet) of tape of this group. I just have a gut feeling that these guys may be in the right place at the right time. Don't ask me why...Finally, "Wrestling: Point/Counterpoint" has debuted on GWF. The initial tapings of this segment have gone very well and I think that Steve Prazak and I will be able to bring our same style to the GWF that we used in the Georgia All-Star area. Please let me know what you think and how we could improve the segment. Just drop a line to Ron LeMieux and he will get it to us. Hoping for input.

### THE LAST WORD...

Wrestling announcer Ross  
aids band from hometown

WAY

TO GO,

ROSSI!



Members of the Westville, Okla., band, all 45 of them, are in town to participate in the Peach Bowl parade and festivities. When the town of 1,000 came up short of funds to send the band, WTBS's Jim Ross, announcer for World Championship Wrestling and native of Westville, stepped in. Ross donated money so the band could make the trip and is buying the band dinner Wednesday before it heads back to Oklahoma.



## IT'S MY 2-CENTS

by Mike Terry

Hope all of you enjoyed your holiday celebration(s) as much as I did. Watching the network newscasts' year-end retrospectives made me realize just how nuts things were in the world in '91. There were certain parallels in pro wrestling as all the different egos and visions and sensibilities and causes intersected and sometimes collided. Don't you think that sometimes people are pretty foolish? I pity people who lose track of reality not to mention their credibility in an attempt to soothe their fragile self-esteem. It's a puzzlement!!

Thumbs up to Missy Hyatt's Madonna look. Hey Missy--wanna play truth or dare?? By the way, Missy's "Power Hour" segment *Missy Does the Mail* belongs in the dead-letter office.

Overall I enjoyed Starrcade '91. I don't think it's the most marketable concept for a PPV, but wouldn't it make a great Clash special for TBS? I taped it for a friend and told him he had the advantage since he could fast forward through the "dead zones." Add my vote of admiration for Abdullah.

To stay consistent, this is the third time on a major PPV I've given THUMBS DOWN to WCW for booking a match like the battle royal which contains way too much action for the home viewer (and obviously their director) to follow. It's a shame so much is lost.....too bad they didn't book Jushin Liger against a legitimate light heavyweight. Mike Graham tried, and the brief encounter with Richard Morton was great, but they missed a splendid opportunity to showcase a top-flight performer.....at least they promoted Liger's arrival with video--unlike Fujinami last year.

Whoops! Jobber Scott Sandlin was decimated and stretched out by Larry Z. on WCW 12/28, but recovered enough to be a body guard at Starrcade 12/29.

What is it about Diamond Dallas Page that I'm missing? I've never been a fan because I've never seen anything to be a fan of. Prediction: early in 1992, Page will seriously injure himself and/or an opponent because of his clumsiness, combined with a recklessness based on an ego that tells him he has much more ability and technical knowledge than he in fact does.

I read in one of the newsletters that Black Bart's "day job" is at a nuclear power plant. Ooh, pull up the covers and rest easily tonight, dadgummit.....One of these days Jim Ross will shock me and "sell" Paul E. seriously. All this belittling and the hair jokes diminish Paul E.'s character.

I'd give a thumbs down to the new Prime Time format, but it wouldn't be fair. I haven't yet been able to stay awake through an entire show to fairly judge it. Can you say "lame?" Sure you can.

Last month's WCW town rundowns moved Chicago to Ohio. This month they moved Georgia's capitol to Atlanta.

Nicknames of the month: Missy on Madusa: "Mrs. Ed."...Mr. Perfect on Monsoon: Gorilla Buffoon.....Quote of the month: Bobby Heenan as Skinner's music played: "You can see the bugs jumpin out of McGuirk's hair."

Separated at birth: Gary Michael Cappetta and David Lee Roth.

Gazing at my 2-cent crystal ball I find Vince McMahon's nightmare and a hardcore's fantasy: It's Wrestlemania time in 1994. Sid Justice is scheduled to defend the belt against Van Hammer in the main event. Sidney decides to sit out Wrestlemania since it's opening day of softball season and doesn't understand what the big deal is.

Noted in a newspaper article: WWF Wrestling figures are the 8th best-selling toys in the U.S.  
Number one: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.

Until next month, Bang! Bang! Deal with it! It's just my 2-cents.

### READER PROFILES

NAME: ERNIE SANTILLI

OCCUPATION: Writer

BORN: 12/13 Philadelphia But accept gifts year round.

WHAT 3 WORDS DESCRIBE YOU BEST: Tie between "Bewitched, Bothered, Bewildered" and "Down With O.P.P."

DREAM VACATION: Tour of spanish fly factory including taste testing session with Uma Thurman, Nastassia Kinski, Christina Applegate, Mary Woronov, &  
THINGS YOU CAN DO WITHOUT: Reader Profiles Michelle Bauer

WHOM IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE DINNER WITH: The cast of "Night of Loving Dangerously" (Traci Lords, Ginger Lynn, Christy Canyon)

MOVIE YOU COULD SEE ANYTIME: Clockwork Orange, Life of Brian, Taxi Driver, Buttman's Ultimate Workout

3 THINGS THAT CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR: Beer, Statue of Liberty, neighbor's dog.

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE: Godzilla

WHAT TV SHOW DO YOU NEVER MISS: Married w/ Children, Divorce Court, Dr. Who, MST 3000

FAVORITE WRESTLING MOMENT: B.T. Express/Marshall Law classic six star showdown at benefit card.



Since it's that magic time of year when sheet editors everywhere present their awards for 1991, thought I'd do the same. Let's call these the "Piece Of My Mind Awards".

**MOST OVERRATED STIFF OF ALL TIME AWARD  
GET A LIFE AWARD**

**REAL NICE GUYS AWARD**

**BEST HEEL**

**PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS AWARD**

**DON'T YOU REALIZE BY NOW THEY'LL SUCK ANYWAY  
AWARD**

**BREAK DOWN FOR SOME CHUMP CHANGE AWARD**

**MOST SADLY APPROPRIATE NAMES FOR WRESTLERS  
AWARDS**

**I DON'T GIVE A DAMN WHAT ANYONE'S SAYING, HE'S  
DONE GOOD BY ME AWARD**

**I SINCERELY WISH EVERYONE A GOOD '91 AWARD**

**OLD FASHIONED GIVE THEM THEIR MONEY'S WORTH  
AWARD**

I know the second I put this in the mail, I'll think of a dozen more, but that should do it for now...

Wanted to announce that I'm currently working on the first WT&N annual, which will be a 50 pager focusing on the **GREAT TERRITORIES**. Packed with literally 100's of rare clippings, articles, line-up sheets and interviews, this will be a must for your collection. Available in late Feb. it will be only \$7.00 and checks should be payable to: Evan Ginzburg at PO Box 471-- Oakland Gdns. Station Flushing NY 11364.

Hope I didn't offend too many people this issue! Seriously, happy new year to all!

NAME: STEVE YOHE

OCCUPATION: Nurse

BORN: 4/16/48 Los Angeles

WHAT 3 WORDS DESCRIBE YOU BEST: direct, truthful, conditioned

DREAM VACATION: The words "Wrestling in Tokyo" gives you a hint.

THINGS YOU CAN DO WITHOUT: "Smart" fans at ringside who have to enlighten us with their wit.

WHOM IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE DINNER WITH: Paula Lopez

MOVIE YOU COULD SEE ANYTIME: Tie Between Bullit, Shane, The Professionals, Gunfight at The OK Corral.

3 THINGS THAT CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR: coke, ice, and more coke.

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE: Steve McQueen (Hey, I'm casting it. He might be too stiff for the part though.)

WHAT TV SHOW DO YOU NEVER MISS: I miss them all.

FAVORITE WRESTLING MOMENT: Fred Blassie pins Destroyer clean in the middle of ring with neckbreaker on 5/10/63 and pulls off mask (after having bitten through it). Beyers runs through standing room only crowd with towel over face.

**JIM NEIDHART**

**ALL FANS WHO COMPLAIN  
ABOUT WWF BUT BUY  
TICKETS EVERY MONTH  
TO EVERYONE WHO SCREWED  
OVER ANF PROMOTER GORDON  
SCOZZARI WHOSE DREAM OF  
PROMOTING TURNED INTO A  
FINANCIAL NIGHTMARE  
JASON HERVEY WHO KNOCKED  
EDDIE GILBERT'S SEXUAL  
PROWESS & WRESTLING  
ABILITY IN THE SAME  
INTERVIEW WHILE  
PROCLAIMING THAT HE  
"MAKES MISSY SCREAM."  
EITHER HE'S THE BEST  
ACTOR ON THE PLANET OR  
THE BIGGEST LOWLIFE (AS  
HEARD ON AREZZI'S RADIO  
SHOW 12/91.)**

**FANS WHO DON'T SUPPORT  
INDIES  
PEOPLE WHO EXPECT MORE  
THAN ONE GOOD MATCH ON A  
WWF PPV**

**TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO  
SEND ME NICE LETTERS  
COMPLIMENTING MY SHEET  
BUT ARE GETTING BOOTLEG  
FREE COPIES. SAVE THE  
STAMP-- YOU JUST TICK ME  
OFF!!!**

**Z MAN & NATURAL  
DISASTERS**

**DR. MIKE LANO WHO'S  
BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF ALL  
MY EFFORTS**

**FROM EVAN GINZBURG TO  
ALL THE "AR" READERS.  
PROMOTER JOEL GOODHART**



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 \*CORRESPONDENT'S CORNER\*  
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Teamsters Hall (MEWF) Dunbolt, MD  
 Correspondent: Bruce Ginevan

December 1, 1991

1) Nick Tarentino sunset flipped Adrian Hall from the top rope. B 2) Golden Phoenix beat Hollywood Bob Star with an elbow from the 2nd rope. C 3) Cream Team won the MEWF tag belts beating Bubba Monroe & Barry Hardy. C 4) Knight of the Road Lucifer over Glamour Boy Mark Aris. D 5) Bounty Hunter Max Thrasher small packaged A.J. Fritzoid. D 6) Ricky Blues & Ramblin Rich went to a ten minute draw. These two are the best workers of the group. Blues did a frankensteiner from the top rope. 7) Johnny Lawler beat Axl Rotten via DQ. They brawled all over building and Rotten juiced hardway. B+ 8) Tom Brandi and Morgus the Maniac went to a double count out. D 9) Morgus won a 16 man bunkhouse battle royal. D

Pittsburgh Civic Arena (WWF) Pittsburgh, PA  
 Correspondents: John Lanigan & Andy Stowell

December 15, 1991

1) El Tito Matador beat Kato with the matador thrust in 12:51. B+ 2) The Beverly Brothers & The Genius beat Jim Neidhart & The Bushwhackers in 9:35 when Blake nailed Luke with a chair. C 3) Bret Hart pinned Mountie with a schoolboy in a quick 1:00. D 4) I.R.S. and Big Boss Man went to a double DQ at 9:36. Six wrestlers had to come out to break it up. C 5) Virgil used a backslide to beat Skinner in 13:12. B 6) Sgt. Slaughter beat Gen. Adnon & Col. Mustafa in 13:12. Stowell got line of the night with, "If there were still an AWA, this would be their pay per view main event." F 7) Jim Duggan & Randy Savage beat Jake Roberts & Undertaker in 14:16. Randy pinned Jake. A+ 2

Memorial Hall (PILEDRIIVER PROMOTIONS) Kansas City, MO  
 Correspondents: Robert Garrison & Bruce Grummert

December 28, 1991

1) Tommy Sharpe & Gary Jackson went to a draw. D 2) Chief Thundercloud defeated Randy Gusto. C 3) Steve Stunning & Mark Van Patten (announced as Central States tag champs.) over The Panther & Lightning Lennie. C- 4) The Champion (Mike George under a hood.) beat Doug Button. D 5) The Punishers Sledge & Hammer over Steve Bird & Owen Jones. D+ 6) Karate Kid pinned Little Tokyo. C 7) Dick Murdoch and Bulldog Bob Brown went to a double DQ. Brown is terrible but K.C. loved him. B- 8) John Tatum & Rod Price defended their Global tag belts turning back D.J. Peterson & Stev Ray when D.J. accidentally clotheslined Ray and Price scored the pin. After, Ray turned on Peterson. C+ 9) Butch Reed beat Bob Orton with a shoulder smash from the top rope. C+ 10) Kimala was to wrestle Monkey Tonk Man but Ferris no showed so Reed came out to challenge the Ugandan and after a brief scuffle, Kimala and Akbar beat a hasty retreat. C- 11) Butch Reed won a rage in the cage battle royal. A really lame gimmick that didn't work. cage gets an F but match gets a C. ATT: 1,000

Baltimore Civic Center (WCW) Baltimore, MD  
 Correspondent: Bruce Ginevan

December 28, 1991

1) P.N. News squashed Terry Taylor to set up the pin in the corner. D 2) Jim Garvin elbow smashed Diamond Dallas Page. Match sucked. F 3) Johnny B. Badd small packaged Richard Morton. C 4) Cactus Jack & Abdullah over Van Hammer & El Gigante when Jack pinned Hammer. C+ 5) Tom Zenk rolled up Larry Zbyszko. C 6) Jushin Liger pinned Brian Pillman. Bruce said you have to see Liger live to appreciate him. Unbelievable moves. B+ 7) Dustin Rhodes & Ricky Steamboat beat Bobby Eaton & Arn Anderson when Steamer nailed Bobby with a flying bodypress. Great match. All worked hard. B 8) Scott Steiner and Steve Austin went to a draw. Lots of mat work. C 9) Rick Rude pinned Sting when Stinger had him up for an atomic drop but Rude nailed him with knucks for the win. C+ 10) Lex Luger beat Rick Steiner in a two out of three fall bout. Rick won fall 1 with a belly to back suplex. Lex took the second fall with his feet on the ropes. Lex won third via DQ when Scott interfered. D

Oakland Coliseum (WWF) Oakland, CA  
 Correspondent: Alan Cookson

January 3, 1992

1) Skinner over Chris Walker with a neckbreaker. 2) El Matador beat Ted DiBiase via DQ when Ted threw Tito into the ref. 3) Chris Chavis forearmed Kato for a victory. 4) Warlord downed Greg Valentine. 5) Undertaker used his urn to dispose of nacksaw Duggan. 6) New Foundation downed the Beverly Brothers via count out when Owen Hart did a leap over the ropes on the bros. and beat the count back in. 7) Bret Hart made Mountie submit to the sharpshooter. 8) Randy Savage used the flying elbow to defeat Jake Roberts. ATT: 6,500



## LETTERS TO "AR"

### Harry Asks

If Kevin Von Erichs' tryout with Titan goes well, do you think he will team with brother Kerry and feud with Earthquake & Typhoon for the right to be called The Natural Disasters?

Harry White  
St. Louis, MO

### President Bush "Works" Japan Crowd

When President George Bush popped to his feet so quickly after keeling over in Japan, did it remind anyone else of a Hogan comeback? For a minute there, with the Secret Service swarming all over him, it reminded me of a WWF run in, you know, like when Hogan has been potatoed and Pat Patterson and other Titan agents and wrestlers make the save and then pretend to know what they are doing. And how about that cool response from Barbara Bush after her husband had just tossed his cookies with the whole world watching? The First Lady of Wrestling, Mrs. Elizabeth Savage, could learn a thing or two about how to remain calm when her husband is, say, being bitten on the arm by a small snake.

I especially liked the way in which the dinner audience responded during the Bush incident, sort of like a typical Japanese wrestling crowd, applauding politely after the President got up and waved to everyone. It's at this point, though, where Bush failed to really put himself over and pop the house with a little "Woaaa!" or a couple of mulkster-like poses.

Isn't it amazing how things that happen in real life are so similar to situations that crop up in pro wrestling. Sort of makes one wonder which came first? Reality or angles?

Jeff Mullins  
Sushiland, CA

### Starrcade

Just returned from Norfolk/Starrcade '91. I gave it a thumbs up. Not that the teams were outstanding, however some of the individual vignettes occurring throughout the various matches were. The opening sequence when the entire group was on the stage was good. As was Abdullah kicking Buddy Lee Parker's ass.

It was my first time seeing Jushin Liger live. I missed the Meadowlands card the Friday before. I was fairly impressed. He did his flip out of the ring directly in front of David Leehey-VWA promoter and old friend as well as mutual friend John "Wrong Way" Lanigan. Lanigan swore it was because he was sitting there. I reminded him it was because of that ridiculous Santa cap and shirt he was wearing. All in all, it was an enjoyable show. Being a double ring, and sitting on the far side every other match became tedious.

WCW did shoot itself in the foot however, no programs for the occasion, no inserts for the WCW magazine & the shirts (although I bought one) sucked.

Rich Kraemer  
Lavallette, NJ

### Annual

I just wanted to drop you a line to congratulate you on the annual! It arrived on Saturday, and I was off from work so I read it cover to cover. I subscribe to several newsletters (I even get P.W.I. Weekly, and adopt a "casual mark" persona while reading it.), but Arena Report always has a character of its own, and that character was captured in the annual.

I particularly enjoyed looking over the reader profiles. They help blow away the stereotypes that wrestling fans are either children or yokels. Keep up the good work and may 1992 bring a return to the style of wrestling I first began watching 20 years ago, and followed until Vince, Jr. changed the rules on us in 1984.

Kim Whitehead  
Johnson City, TN

Happy New Year! Arena Report Annual articles were super. Great cover. Is that Evan stomping on the WWF program? The reader profiles throughout the issue were fun, entertaining and informative. Mmmmmmm. Let's see, did I read that right? Vic Stanley wants me for dinner and Traci Lords for dessert? Well, I don't know about Traci Lords satisfying his dream vacation wish, but I'll try to fulfill his dinner companion wish. I also want to compliment you for always standing by Marianne Ryan in the face of criticism. (As well as some other AR folks who have been drilled between AR's pages lately. HA HA.) I miss Marianne's old highway to heaven stories, but her column is still one of my favorites. I often thought Sir Lancelot went and rearranged her notes a year or so ago. Though she denies it. And still, she can't please everybody. Not even frivolous folk fast freezing fiery rerk photos! I know that's silly and meaningless, but it's fun to try to say real fast.

Marilyn Rundle  
Gardiner, NY



I want to compliment you for caring enough to send out your retraction regarding the Lano/Keller affair, although you were not entirely at fault considering the fact that you were consciously misled. I think you made the right decision. It is time for everyone involved to put this silly business behind them. Some people seem to have distorted perceptions of self worth and just how interesting their own little paranoiac "Peyton Place" complexes are to their readers. As for me, speaking as a feeble, obscure, semi-smart fan, I would rather read about wrestling.

Loved the annual! Especially the reader profiles. Ask Harry White about our eerie "Parallel Universe" existences some time. I also heard that Marilyn had some comments on my reader profile. Whatta woman!

Best wishes to you, Cheryl, young Chris and all your readers (including that strange George Maranville fellow).

Vic Stanley  
Lafayette, IN

Thanks for the annual. Much enjoyed it. I loved the cover, although it would have been better to have AR columnists on it. Never mind these front row bozos. Next year, have a cover with a center of you & Cheryl & Chris, surrounded by illios of your AR staff. Good idea, no?

A great idea was that readers profile. A really neat way to learn about folks. There was more of us in this than in anything I have ever seen, which is at least to me, a bonus. I am beginning to be concerned for Jubie Jay's education, since it seems he's always being suspended.

Eating a banana while reading Meltzer's article, I almost choked to death when I read a slightly derogatory comment about Flair. Eating a piece of pepperoni later, I almost swallowed it whole when he had Flair #10, and a qualified 10 at that. If my lungs and my wallet could stand it, later I would have been smoking a fat cigar, and would have choked on that, with laughter, at J.Z.'s piece. No, I don't have an oral fetish.

Poor Marianne is at odds with Bret. Gee, who would have ever guessed: neat letters section, as usual. Vic has been dealing with me too long, he's starting to run angles on everyone. Harry White would be amazed and shocked to learn that we had similar thoughts (I had a match between Lano and O'Connor for my fictional rrv, might still do it.) And you blasted Wade. Hey, Ron, everyone does childish things from time to time including you. Keep in mind his age. Well, when I was 20, one time I partied all night and worked all day and the next night went to a wrestling card. Wouldn't even think of it now.

Anyway, it was a good publication which I thoroughly enjoyed. Congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

Rodney Leighton  
Pugwash, Nova Scotia

Fantastic!! That's what your annual was. I enjoyed it very much. Your profile was very interesting. Debbie Malenko huh? Care to explain why. Can you give me two good reasons.

Needless to say I enjoyed the results section. I also enjoyed the G.A.G. awards. Your Ramblings section was great as usual, as a matter of fact, that's what I usually read first but couldn't find it right away and had to search. Keep up the great effort. The special letter you sent also says something positive about your character. When you make a mistake, you want to make things right.

Mike Pochuski  
Mohnton, PA

RL- Thanks for everyone's kind words. As far as Debbie Malenko goes, I already had to explain that to my wife, and that took some thinking.

#### Question

Is Alexandra York going to the WWF or regional areas after leaving WCW?  
Bob Luedke  
Passaic, NJ

RL- As far as I know, Ms York will remain as the WCW make up girl which was her initial job with WCW. She is also engaged to Dustin Rhodes.